



Matragi 6-3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Matragi et al.

Case: 6-3


Serial No.: 09/488,181

Filing Date: January 20, 2000

Group: 2666

Title: Method and Apparatus For Message-Based Overload Control in a Distributed Call-Processor Communication System

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Signature:  Date: July 3, 2003

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

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Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Amendment and Response to Office Action relating to the above-identified patent application. There is no additional claim fee due in connection with the Amendment. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **Deposit Account No. 50-0762** as required to correct the error. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully,



Date: July 3, 2003

Kevin M. Mason  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 36,597  
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP  
1300 Post Road, Suite 205  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
(203) 255-6560



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Examiner: Ronald B. Abelson

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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25 Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action, dated April 18, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows. A version of the amendments that have been marked to show all changes is included as an Appendix.

A1 IN THE ABSTRACT:

30 A method and apparatus are disclosed for alleviating congestion and overload in a distributed call-processing system interconnected through a packet based network, such as an Internet Protocol or an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network. The illustrative Internet Protocol network includes a plurality of end terminals and distributed call processors. When an end terminal wants to place a call, the end terminal send a call set up message to a call processor. According to an  
35 aspect of the invention, the call processor will determine whether to process the request or to forward